1 09/506347 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

NAKATA et al.

Examiner:

Kimlien T. Le

Serial No.:

09/506347

Group Art Unit:

2653

Filed:

February 17, 2000

Docket No.:

10873.0498US01

Title:

Optical Head And Method Of Manufacturing The Same

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 27, 2004.

Name: Sarah Monfeldt

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

JUN 0 4 2004

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Applicant wishes to call the Examiner's attention to co-pending, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/491100, filed January 25, 2000 and 10/428564, filed May 2, 2003.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits or a first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but before the mailing date of: i) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113; ii) a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the application. No fee is due as this statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) or §1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that the information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from the

Examiner in co-pending US Patent Application Serial No. 09/491100 and Application Serial No. 10/428564 less than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Enclosed are copies of the PTO-892 for co-pending Application Serial No. 10/428564, filed May 2, 2003, and co-pending Application Serial No. 09/491100, filed January 25, 2000, citing references.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicant(s) do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dated: May 27, 2004

DPM:smm

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

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